

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 226

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: JAN 16 DPC MEETING-STUDY ON THE USE OF WARNING TIME
(AGENDA ITEM II)

REFC A. USNATO 7080 NOTAL

B. USNATO 65

C. STATE 7851

SUMMARY. AT THE JAN 16 DPC MEETING ON THE STUDY ON THE USE OF WARNING TIME, DPC APPROVED SYG LUNS' RECOMMENDATION THAT THE STUDY GROUP ITSELF ADDRESS POINTS RAISED IN THE US LETTER (REF A) AND THAT NO ALTERATIONS BE MADE TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE. TURNING TO THE PROPOSED TURKISH MODIFICATION, DPC AGREED TO CHANGE THE WORDING IN THE TEXT OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE TO READ "THE CURRENT VERSIONS OF MC 161". CONCERNING THE FORTHCOMING REVISION OF MC161, ADMIRAL SIR PEETER NILL-NORTON (CHAIRMAN, MC) URGED NATIONS NOT TO INSIST ON SPECIFIC SCENARIOS FOR INCLUSION IN THE REVISION OF WARNING OF WAR SECTION. END SUMMARY.
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1. SYG LUNS OPENED DISCUSSION ON THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE STUDY ON THE USE OF WARNING TIME BY REMINDING PERMREPS THAT THE PROPOSAL FOR SUCH A STUDY ORIGINATED AT THE DECEMBER 1973 DEFENSE MISISTERS' DISCUSSION (RESTRECTED SESSION) ON

THE PRELIMINARY LESSONS OF THE MIDDLE EAST WAR. AT THIS MEETING, SEVERAL MINISTERS SUGGESTED THAT THERE WERE LESSONS FOR NATO IN THE ISRAELI EXPERIENCE, PARTLY IN RELATION TO THE CHARACTER AND INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THEM AS TO ARAB INTENTIONS, AND TO THE USE THEY WERE ABLE TO MAKE OF THIS INFORMATION. LUNS WENT ON TO SAY THAT PERMREPS HAD DISCUSSED THE IDEA OF A STUDY AT VARIOUS TIMES OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS BUT HAD REACHED NO AGREEMENT ON ITS OBJECTIVES OR CONDUCT. HE HOPED THAT AT THIS MEETING "WE SHALL BE ABLE TO LAUNCH IT SATISFACTORILY INTO ORBIT."

2. TURNING TO THE POINTS RAISED IN THE US LETTER DATED DEC 20 (REF A), LUNS RECOMMENDED THAT STUDY GROUP ADDRESS THESE ITSELF AND THAT IT NOT ALTER TEXT OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT WE ARE DISCUSSING THE USE OF WARNING TIME BY NATO AS A WHOLE AND NOT MERELY BY SINGLE NATIONS.

3. IN REGARD TO THE TURKISH PROPOSAL (REF B) SYG LUNS SAID THAT HE UNDERSTANDS "THE CURRENT VERSIONS OF MC 161" TO MEAN WHATEVER VERSION OF THIS DOCUMENT IS CURRENTLY IN EXISTENCE AND APPROVED BY THE MILITARY COMMITTEE. AMB ERALP (TURKEY) STATED THAT HE WAS CONCERNED THAT THE STUDY GROUP WOULD BE GUIDED ONLY BY MC 161(74) AND NOT THE REVISED VERSION WHEN IT BECOMES AVAILABLE IN APRIL 1975. AMB ERALP SUGGESTED CHANGING THE TERMS OF REFERENCE TO READ "THE CURRENT VERSIONS OF MC 161". DPC AGREED.

4. CONCERNING THE FORTHCOMING REVISION OF MC 161(74) ADM SIR PETER HILL-NORTON URGED NATIONS NOT TO INSIST ON SPECIFIC SCENARIOS FOR INCLUSION IN THE REVISION. IN HIS VIEW, MC 161 SHOULD EXPRESS CAPABILITIES AND NOT SCENARIOS.

5. AMB BRUCE SAID THAT WE HAVE NOT ASKED FOR A REVISION OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE BUT WISH DRAW ATTENTION TO OUR CONCERN THAT THE STUDY ON THE USE OF WARNING TIME MAY BE RESTRICTED TO THE UTILIZATION OF WARNING TIME FOLLOWING NOTIFICATION
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BY INTELLIGENCE CHANNELS OF IMPENDING ATTACK. THE US WOULD PREFER TO SEE THE STUDY EMPHASIZE ON WHAT NATIONS CAN AND SHOULD BE PREPARED TO DO ON THEIR OWN TO ENHANCE THEIR POSTURE AND READINESS WHENEVER REQUIRED, WITHOUT WAITING TO BE PROMPTED BY THE NATO ALERT SYSTEM OR POSSIBLE DECISIONS BY THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE OR THE COUNCIL. DPC AGREED TO NOTE THESE REMARKS.

6. AMB HARTOGH (NETHERLANDS) RECOMMENDED ESTABLISHING A TARGET DATE FOR COMPLETING THE STUDY. SYG LUNS SAID THAT HE EXPECTED A COMPLETE REPORT BY THE SPRING MINISTERIAL BUT RECOGNIZED IT MIGHT BE DELAYED UNTIL LATER IN THE YEAR BECAUSE OF THE HEAVY WORKLOAD.
BRUCE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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